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Letter dated 7 October 2003 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my letter of 18 July 2003 (S/2003/747).

The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached third report from the Republic of Moldova submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001).

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Note verbale dated 6 October 2003 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and, with reference to the letter dated 11 July 2003 from the Chairman of the Committee, has the honour to submit herewith the second supplementary report of the Republic of Moldova, which provides information on issues raised by the Counter-Terrorism Committee (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Second supplementary report of the Government of the Republic of Moldova to the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) in response to the letter of the Chairman of the Committee dated 11 July 2003

1. Implementation measures

1.1 The CTC has agreed on further questions and comments for the consideration of the Government of Moldova with regard to the implementation of the Resolution, as set out in this section.

On 27 December 2001 the Republic of Moldova submitted to SC CTC of the UN the National Report regarding the measures undertaken by the Government to implement the provisions of the Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001). On 18 September 2002 Moldova submitted a supplementary report to the CTC responding to a number of preliminary comments/questions contained in the letter from the CTC dated 28 May 2002. In the letter dated 11 July 2003 the CTC Committee required supplementary information on the implementation process of the Resolution. This second supplementary report provides answers to those questions.

1.2 The effective implementation of the Paragraph 1 of the Resolutions requires appropriate legal and other measures to register, audit and monitor the collection and use of funds and other resources by charitable, religious, cultural and other associations, to ensure that they are not diverted from their stated purposes, in particular to the financing of terrorism. The supplementary report states (at page 9) that all organizations which are suspected of being linked to terrorist acts. This may not be adequate as some of these organizations could also themselves be operating clandestinely on behalf of terrorist groups. The CTC would be grateful to be informed of the steps which Moldova proposes taking in order to strengthen its existing measures with a view to implementing the terms of this paragraph more effectively.

Art.6 of the Law on Combating Terrorism stipulates that in addition to the authorities which unfold a direct activity on fighting terrorism, other public administration authorities can also participate in within their mandate. In this case National Bank, as a public authority, following coming into force, on 25 April 2002, of the Law on Preventing and Combating Money Laundering, through its decision (which is a compulsory normative act) demanded commercial banks to elaborate their internal policy regarding prevention and combating money laundering in accordance with official Recommendation of National Bank of Moldova "concerning elaboration by banks of the Republic of Moldova of the programs on money laundering prevention and fighting", which are displayed on website http://www.bnm.org. These Recommendations were elaborated in consideration with the stipulations of the Basel Committee document "Client's cognition for banks" dated October 2001, principle 15 from "The methodology of basic principals" dated October 1999 (which stipulate that bank's supervision has to determine if banks have policy, practices and procedures, inclusive strict rules on client's knowledge, which develop norms of ethic and professionalism in the financial sphere and prevent using of banks, in intentional mode, or by criminal elements), general accepted principles on the international level in the sphere of money laundering counteraction — 40 Recommendations of FATF, also stipulations of the Law # 633-XV concerning prevention and combating money laundering. Simultaneously, assistance was obtained for elaboration of the Recommendation from "Barents Groups" LLC — the KPMG consulting project and from the Office for Technical Assistance of the US Treasury Department.

The objective of these Recommendations is to compel banks to elaborate their own programs on preventing and combating money laundering, in order to enable them to attract legal resources from legal clients, with the aim to avoid afferent risks of money laundering, especially, certain risks of image, as well as operational, legal and informational technology risks. These Recommendations establish the basic principles for taking measures to prevent money laundering that could be universally applied. Also, these Recommendations reflect fundamental principles in this field to be implemented by banks resulting from individual specific features, institutional

structure, offering them a possibility to be flexible. Simultaneously, these Recommendations establish some requirements towards the rules "Know your client" which include, but are not limited to policies of client acceptance, policies on client's identification including of those who activate on their behalf, procedures regarding continuous monitoring of transactions made by clients and procedures on information holding and keeping, etc. (the compartment 6 of Recommendations "Know your client" is annexed — annex nr.1, 3 pages).

In order to examine the internal programs of commercial banks on preventing and combating money laundering and ensuring that the programs correspond to the legal provisions in force, the National Bank requested commercial banks to present these programs. After the examination of the programs on prevention and combating money laundering in commercial banks in the event of drawbacks existence, all of these banks were required to improve programs, in accordance with the legislation in force and the general-accepted practice in this field.

Within the framework of supervision, including the controls on spot, NBM verifies the existence, opportunity and implementation by commercial banks of their internal programs on money laundering prevention, including policy, practices and written procedures, and rules about clients cognition and staff training.

In case of drawbacks in implementing and following these policies, or failure to report the suspect transactions to relevant institutions, NBM, on the one hand imposes measures to rectify or remove these drawbacks, but on the other hand conveys this information to relevant institutions (more detailed information is on point 1.4).

Also, necessary modifications have been introduced in the normative acts of the National Bank of Moldova in order to curtail financing terrorism and prevent money laundering (Regulations concerning currency settlement on the territory of the Republic of Moldova from 13.01.1994, Regulations concerning organizing and function of exchange offices and exchange offices within the hotels on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, # 100018-20 dated 06.05.1994). The observance by exchange offices of legislation provisions in force of the Republic of Moldova, normative and instructive documents elaborated by the National Bank of Moldova, is permanently controlled.

Simultaneously, after the lists of terrorist persons/organizations and their affiliates were distributed by the USA Embassy, and later on by the UN Security Council, in pursuance of Resolutions 1388 (2002), 1363 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1377 (2001), 1333 (2000), 1267 (1999), 1173 (1998), 1127 (1997), the NBM responded promptly, drawing bank's attention to the necessity to respect these resolutions, verifying their clients with the view of determining eventual physical and legal suspect persons in operations of money laundering and crimes, by informing NBM. The results of verified transactions made by the persons indicated in the lists through moldovan banks, if any, are transmitted to the Government, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Information and Security Service of the Republic of Moldova.

1.3 The CTC would be content to be informed of the penalties, if any, for non-compliance by natural persons and entities with Article 4 of the Law on Money Laundering which obliges them to report suspicious transactions to Office of the General Prosecutor.

In accordance with the art. 4 of the Law on preventing and combating money laundering, organizations which carry out financial operations (banks, stock exchange, investment funds, insurance companies and institutions which offer legal, notary, book-keeping etc.) are obliged to undertake a lot of measures for fighting against money laundering. More than that they are obliged to present information about suspect financial operations to the Center for Fighting Economic Crimes and Corruption, which is responsible for enforcing the Law. At the same time, in accordance with art.10 of the same Law, if persons are encroaching upon the stipulations of this Law, they are punished in accordance with this Law.

Thus, in accordance with the Law on Center for Fighting Economic Crimes and Corruption, the latter has the right in the limits of its competence to carry out criminal investigations, to prepare prosecution reports on administrative offences, to arrest suspected offenders, to apply fines and other sanctions.

Article 243 "Money laundering" from Criminal Code stipulates that actions committed in order to hide information about nature, origin, movement, placement of money, by the persons who know that that money originated from criminal activity, then they are punished with a fine from 500 to 1,000 conventional units (USD), or get a prison sentence up to 5 years with the deprivation of the right to occupy some functions or to practice some activities for a period of time from 2 to 5 years. The same offences which are repeated or committed in an organized group are punished harder.

Concomitantly, in accordance with the art. 38 of the Law on financial institutions, if it is found that banks, their owners or their administrators have encroached upon stipulations of this Law, normative acts of National Bank of Moldova (which includes obligations to report on suspects transactions) the National Bank can pass a warning, a written order, can fine the banks and/or their administrators, can withdraw the right to carry out the respective functions, to limit the activity of the bank, etc.

After entering in force of the Law on preventing and combating money laundering and in view of executing the stipulations of art 23 of the Law on financial institutions, 16 complex controls and 15 specific controls of commercial banks were carried out by the National Bank in 2002, including 7 specific controls requested by various law enforcement institutions. Within these controls the issue of conformation of the banks activity to stipulations of the Law was examined; and that the internal control systems of banks are in accordance with the legal stipulations and their effectiveness grade in the sphere to be familiar with the clients and with their transactions and to report about the suspects operations, in view of non-admission of using banks in money laundering operations.

About the results of these inspections in the field, NBM had informed and had presented respective materials to the legal institutions in 25 cases (General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Information and Security Service).

Besides, the National Banks has the right to demand removing and applying sanctions to banks or to their administrators when some violations of the Law provisions or some drawbacks in banks activity on preventing and combating money laundering are traced. During this period the National Bank of Moldova applied sanctions and imposed different measures of remedy (attention, warning, fines, withdrawal of the right of administrators to hold respective functions, partial suspension of activity, etc) to banks in 21 cases. Afterwards, the National Bank had constantly supervised, checked on spot and certified the realization of imposed measures and removing by the banks of the drawbacks and irregularities in the sphere of preventing and combating money laundering.

1.4 Could Moldova please provide an outline of the legal and other measures available to regulate alternative money transfer agencies in Moldova.

Such measures were not taken by the National Bank, due to the fact that in accordance to the legislation in force of the Republic of Moldova, payment system is supervised and regulated by the National Bank. It doesn't exist other alternative payment systems out of the banking system on territory of the Republic of Moldova.

1.5 The CTC while nothing the reply of Moldova, at pages 3 to 5 of its supplementary report, would be grateful with a detailed outline of the provisions of the Law # 539-XV of December 2001 on combating terrorism, that are relevant to the implementation of each of the paragraphs of the Resolution. Could Moldova please outline the legal provisions they have put in place, to implement the Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism.

The Law of the Republic of Moldova # 539-XV of 12 October 2001 on combating terrorism stipulates juridical and organizational framework of activities on combating terrorism in the Republic of Moldova, the way of co-ordination of specialized structures activities in view of combating terrorism, of actions undertaken by central and local public authorities, by associations and public organization, by persons with responsible functions and by others particular persons, as well as the rights, obligations and guarantees of persons in relations with these activities.

Stipulations of the mentioned Law could be related to the provisions of the Resolution 1373 (2001) in the following way:

— par. 1 (a):

art. 2 "General Definitions", according to which the terrorist activity includes, inter alia, financing of terrorist organization or a terrorist group, as well as rendering assistance to them in other ways;

art. 5 "Objectives of the activity on combating terrorism", according to which the activity on combating terrorism has the following objectives:

a) protection of persons, society and state against terrorism;
b) prevention, discovering, interruption of terrorist activities and attenuation of its consequences;
c) tracing out and elimination of the causes and conditions of development of the terrorist activity.

— par. 1 (c):

art.8-1 "Suspension of financial operations on the indication of the authorities engaged in preliminary investigations", according to which organizations which carry out financial operations are obliged, at indication of authorized bodies engaged in preliminary investigations to freeze bank accounts, financial assets and other economical resources of persons involved in committing or attempt to commit terrorist acts, or in favoring such actions; of legal entities dependant from or directly managed by these persons; of individuals or entities which act on behalf or by indication of these persons, including means derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the mentioned persons, as well as by their associates. Organizations which perform financial operations, while implementing the indication of the authorities engaged in preliminary investigations, are obliged to inform immediately the authorities about freezing of bank accounts, financial assets and other economical resources. Authorities engaged in preliminary investigations are obliged, within their mandate, to undertake urgent actions in order to investigate the case, and further inform the organization which has performed the financial operation about the decision taken.

art.24 "Responsibility of the organization for carrying out a terrorist activity", according to which if an organization is recognized as a terrorist one its goods are confiscated for the benefit of state.

— par. 1 (d):

art.22 "Responsibility for undertaking terrorist activity" in accordance with which, persons found guilty of undertaking terrorist activity are punished by the legislation in force.

— par. 2 (a):

art.2 "General Definitions" according to which the terrorist activity includes, inter alia, providing assistance to terrorists in various ways, enrolling, arming, training and making use of terrorists.

— par. 2 (d):

art.2 "General Definition" according to which the Republic of Moldova combats international terrorist activity, namely terrorists activities commited:

- by a terrorist, a group of terrorists or a terrorist organization on the territory of 2 or more states, causing damages to the interests of these states;
- by citizens of one state against citizens of another state or on the territory of another state;
- in case when both the terrorist and the victim are citizens of the same state or of different states, but the crime was committed outside of the territory of these states.

— par. 2 (f):

art.4 "International co-operation on combating terrorism", according to which the Republic of Moldova, in accordance with international treaties to which Moldova is a party, cooperates in sphere of combating terrorism with law enforcement bodies and specials services of other states, as well as with international organizations which activate in this domain.

— par. 2 (g):

art.7 "Mandate of authorities which carry out activity of combating terrorism", in accordance with which the task on interrupt the attempts of terrorists to pass the state border of the Republic of Moldova is fulfilled by Department of Border Troops.

— par. 3 (c):

art.4 "International co-operation on combating terrorism", according to which the Republic of Moldova, in accordance with international treaties to which Moldova is a party, cooperates in domain of combating terrorism with law enforcement bodies and specials services of other states, as well as with international organizations which activate in this domain.

Simultaneously, it could be stated that the other paragraphs from Resolution1373 (2001) are reflected in legislatives acts of Republic of Moldova, such as:

- Criminal Cod approved of Law # 985-XV of 18 April 2002
- Cod of Criminal Procedure approved of Law #122-XV of 14 March 2003;
- Law #1286-XV of 25 July 2002 on counteracting of extremist activities;
- Law #633-XV of 15 November 2001 on prevention and combating money laundering;
- Law #269-XIII of 9 November 1994 on exit and entrance in the Republic of Moldova;
- Law #108-XIII of 17 Mai 1994 on the state border.

In view of implementation of stipulations of the international Convention on suppression of terrorism financing in the Republic of Moldova have effect next legislative provisions:

- art. 279 from Criminal Cod "Activity on financing and material assistance provision of terrorists acts";
- art. 8-1 from Law #539-XV on 12 October 2001 on combating of terrorism "Suspension of financial operations on the indication of the authorities engaged in preliminary investigations".

1.6 In the context of the effective implementation of sub-paragraph 2 (a), please outline the legislative and regulatory controls instituted by Moldova to prevent weapons smuggling into or through Moldova. The CTC would be grateful if Moldova could describe what plans, if any, the Government of Moldova has to centralized all criminal indexes (e.g. police, customs, border).

Moldova's mechanisms on counteracting of armament smuggling are constituted in legal and normative framework, which establishes the regime of manufacturing, holding and selling of armament, as well as sanctioning of violation of this regime.

Thus, the fabrication, holding and selling of armament is regulated by the Law # 110-XIII from 18.05.94 on armaments (which regulates the regime of individual arms), the Parliament Decision #283-XIV of 17.02.99 on approval of the Regulations on the way of marketing of military equipment, armaments and other technical means, being in possession of the Armed Forces of Moldova, the Parliament Decision #161-XV of 04.04.03 on implementation of the Convention on prohibition of development, producing, stocking and use of chemical arms

and their destroying. Non-observance of these norms is sanctioned by the Criminal Code (article 143 emphasizes sanctions for using of mass destruction weapons, article 248 emphasizes sanctions for smuggling, article 290 emphasizes sanctions for carrying, keeping, procuring, fabrication, repairing and illegal selling of ammunitions and weapons).

Observance of mentioned norms at the boundaries of Moldova is in competence of the Department of Border Troops and the Customs Department, authorized with these attributions by the Law #108-XII from 17.05.94 on State Border of Moldova (article 10, line (7) which stipulate that the authorization for passing over the state border of persons, vehicles, goods and other goods stipulates effecting of border control, which consists in control of vehicles, luggage, goods and other goods with the purpose of tracing out of offending the rules on passing state border, as well as searching for narcotics substances, toxics substances, poisonous, radioactive, explosive, of harmful offal, of armaments, of explosive devices, of weapon and ammunition and other values hidden from control and banned for introducing or extracting from the state). Observance of the relevant legal and normative dispositions on the territory of Moldova is assured by the Information and Security Service, Ministry of Internal Affairs, other authorized bodies, which are tasked by the legislation and normative acts to trace out offences (minor offences) and offenders (minor offenders) and bring them to punishment.

It should be also mentioned that Moldova, besides of its internal legal and normative regulations, is part of a range of international agreements and treaties in this domain (bilateral and multilateral), observance of which is also being put in a burden of the mentioned authorized bodies.

1.7 Sub-paragraph 2 (c) of the Resolution requires States to deny safe haven to those who finance, plan, support or commit terrorist acts or provide safe havens. Could Moldova please provide an outline of legal and other measures in Moldova that ensure compliance with this sub-paragraph?

The article 9, line (1), letter b) and article 15, line (1), letter b) from the Law # 1518-XV from 06.12.02 establishes the entrance interdictions in Moldova for persons connected to international terrorist organizations, illicit human being traffic, armaments and drugs dealing; for persons which represent threat to the national security, order, health or public moral; for persons which committed offences against peace, human security, other serious crimes, inclusive those of military nature, defined in internationals treaties; for persons which have unexecuted criminal records etc.

1.8 Please outline the laws and regulations governing the issuance of travel documents. How does Moldova screen employers who will have access to identity and travel documents? What measures are in place to implement Interpol Resolutions #AG-2002-RES-05 and # AG-2002-RES-06 concerning the issue of travel documents and on fraudulent travel documents? Please outline how counter-terrorist policies and activities are coordinated between the various ministries. Please provide an organogram. Have any special units been established to tackle this issue.

In accordance with art.6 from the Law on combating terrorism, coordination activities of trained authorities on combating terrorism is effectuated by the Supreme Security Council of the Republic of Moldova, members of this Committee are the President of Republic of Moldova, the Prime-Minister, the Ministries of Defense, of Internal and Foreign Affairs, the Chef of Information and Security Service of the Republic of Moldova and other highly ranking persons.

For direct leading of antiterrorist operations a special operative group is usually created, which is led, depending of the case nature, by a representative of the Information and Security Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Prosecutor's Office, State Protection and Guard Service, in function by their attributions. The operative group for leading of anti-terrorist operations, represents a body which directly conduct forces and means used in anti-terrorist operations.

The operative groups have the following basic tasks:

a) interruption of terrorist act;
b) collecting and analyzing information on operative situations and its evolution, organizers and executers of terrorist act, in order to determine its nature, proportions and consequences;
c) training and directly leading of forces and necessaries means for carrying out of antiterrorist operations;
d) negotiating with terrorists;
e) assurance of juridical regime in the zone of antiterrorist operation;
f) fulfillment of measures to minimize the consequences of terrorist act.

In composition of Information and Security Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Protection and Guard Service, the Department of Penitentiary institutions of Justice Ministry, specialized structures for combating terrorism were created.

1.9 The CTC has noted that Moldova is party to the Agreement on Cooperation by the Ministries of the Interior of CIS countries on combating terrorism and that Moldova has bilateral agreements with Turkey and Hungary on combating terrorism. Could Moldova please describe its procedures for dealing with the requests of States, from outside the CIS which have not concluded bilateral agreements with Moldova concerning criminal investigations and juridical proceeding?

International juridical framework entered in force for Moldova, which contains provisions on juridical assistance in criminal sphere, is the following:

- CIS Convention on juridical assistance and legal relations in civil, familial and penal lawsuits;
- Bilateral pacts on juridical assistance in lawsuit and trial matters, concluded between Moldova and Ukraine, Romania, Russian Federation, Lithuania, Latvia and Turkey.

These internationals instruments contain an apart chapter which regulates accordance of juridical assistance in trial matters (namely: investigation (interrogation) of parts, indictments and accused, witnesses and experts; the effectuation of examinations; judiciary investigation; searches; sequestration; transmitting and releasing of material evidences; starting/taking over of criminal pursuit, seeking for persons and their extradition for crimes committed; recognizing and executing of judicial sentences, on lawsuit action; handing and dispatching of documents; presentation of information about criminal records of accused persons; elaborating and transmitting of acts, transferring of condemned persons to criminal responsibility or punishment execution, etc.)

In the same time, it should be emphasized, that the above mentioned actions aren't stipulated integral in regulations volume of all international nominated treaties, each international pact containing adequate stipulation of a certain activity sector, applied only to the Contracting Parts.

Also, Moldova is part of the following international instruments with European vocation, which also provide accordance of international juridical assistance:

- The European Convention on juridical assistance in trail matters and additional Protocol to this Convention;
- The European Convention on extradition and those two additional Protocols to this Convention.

1.10 The CTC notes from the reply of Moldova, given at page 8 of its first report, that Moldova cannot be a party to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety Of Maritime Navigation and to the Rome Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platform located on the Continental Shelf, as Moldova has no access to the sea coast. However, the CTC would like to draw the attention of Moldova to the importance of these two international instruments in the fight against Terrorism. Sub-paragraph 3 (d) of the Resolution calls upon all States parties as soon as possible to the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism. The CTC would therefore appreciate knowing what action Moldova proposes taking in these regard?

After Moldova becoming a member of the International Maritime Organization on 12.12.2001, national relevant bodies are considering the opportunity of ratification of the conventions mentioned in the near future.

1.11 The CTC is aware that Moldova may have covered some or all of the points in the preceding paragraphs in reports or questionnaires submitted to other organizations involved in monitoring international standards. The CTC would be content to receive a copy of any such report or questionnaires as part of Moldova's response to these matters as well as details of any efforts to implement international best practices, codes and standards that are relevant to the implementation of Resolution 1373.

For the purposes of this paragraph could be referred a recent national report of the Republic of Moldova, submitted pursuant to the SC resolution 1455 (2003).

2. Assistance and guidance

2.1 The CTC is eager to facilitate the provision of assistance and advice in connection with the implementation of the Resolution. The Committee would encourage Moldova to let it know if there are areas, other than those set out below, in which assistance or advice might be of benefit to Moldova in its implementation of the Resolution or of any areas in which Moldova might be in a position to offer assistance or advice to other States on the implementation of the Resolution.

Moldova is still interested in receiving any assistance and cooperation that might help ensure the optimum implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) in the country. In particular, Moldova would be interested in receiving assistance in training of personnel engaged in enforcing the laws related to compliance with the Resolution.

2.2 The CTC maintains a Directory of Information and Sources of Assistance in the field of Counter-Terrorism on which all relevant information on available assistance is posted. It can be found on the CTC's website (www.un.org/sc/ctc). The CTC's Technical Assistance Team is available to discuss any aspect of the provision of assistance and can be contacted as referred to in paragraph 3.1 below.

Relevant officers from the ministers and departments involved in counter-terrorism activity were duly informed about and have access to the Committee's web site on which all relevant information on available assistance is posted. They were encouraged to consult it in due course in order to identify assistance and cooperation mechanisms.

2.4 In view of the various legislative steps that Moldova has already taken, the CTC would advise Moldova to focus its attention on receiving assistance in training of personnel engaged in enforcing the laws related to compliance with the Resolution. As a second priority, Moldova could approach the IMF to seek their advice in regard to the adequacy of their existing laws to comply with the resolution.

The Government of Moldova is considering now ways of approaching IMF/WB in view of requesting them for assistance in combating money-laundering and terrorist financing under their relevant programmes.

2.6 The CTC notes also that its Technical Assistance Team has met with a representative of the Permanent Mission of Moldova to discuss potential sources of assistance and advice. I am pleased to inform you that the initial request for assistance submitted by the Government of Moldova has been forwarded to potential assistance-providers. The Technical Assistance Team will continue to monitor the progress of the request.

Moldova is grateful for the assistance and advice offered by the Committee in connection with the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), as well as for promotion of the governmental request to potential assistance-providers. The Government is looking forward with a great interest to receive any proposal from these providers, which will be carefully considered.

2.7 If there are aspects of the implementation of the Resolution in relation to which the Government of Moldova believes that it could benefit from discussion with the CTC experts, it is welcome to contact them in the manner mentioned in paragraph 3.1 below.

As the Committee will note, Moldova has duly complied with all the Security Council resolutions on terrorism and is endeavoring to apply all its recommendations effectively. For the time being, therefore, the country has not felt the need for a discussion with the Committee's experts, but it does not rule out the possibility of holding such a discussion in the future and is obviously open to receiving any of the experts in the country and establishing a mutually enriching and positive dialog.

2.8 At this stage the CTC will be focusing on requests for assistance that relate to "Stage A" matters. However, the assistance to be provided by one State to another on any aspect of the implementation of the Resolution is a matter for agreement between them. The CTC would be grateful to be kept informed of any such arrangements and on their outcome.

At this stage, Moldova has not requested any assistance, but it may do so later. It also has not reached any agreements with other states on any aspect of the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

Lastly, the Government of Moldova wishes to express its thanks to the Committee for its efforts and reiterates its willingness to continue cooperating in the necessary areas.